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LETTER DATED 1 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 25 June 1993 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the decisions taken by the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) at its 94th meeting on 27 May 1993.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 25 June 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you, with regard to the unjust decisions persisted in by certain States in the Sanctions Committee established by Security Council resolution 661 (1990), that the objectives of those States are to inflict injury and damage on the Iraqi people, contrary to all values and customs and to the principles of the United Nations Charter.

The decisions taken by the Sanctions Committee at its 94th meeting, held on 27 May 1993, merit a pause to observe the extent of the injustice, injury and arbitrariness that is being wrought against the people of Iraq by the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Japan, which are trying, on various excuses and pretexts, to prevent the delivery of essential humanitarian items.

From a swift review of the requests that were rejected by the Committee at this meeting, we find the following:

1. Objection by the United States to 20 requests;

2. Objection by the United Kingdom to 9 requests;

3. Objection by France to 7 requests;

4. Objection by Japan to 1 request.

This is in addition to putting numerous other requests on hold or deferring them on various pretexts in order to complicate and prolong the Committee's proceedings and procrastinate in giving approval.

Below are some examples that constitute a blatant pattern of disregard for the United Nations Charter and the norms of international law:

1. Refusal to allow the Italian company TEXIM to export a waste water treatment system to equip a pharmaceutical manufacturing complex, because of the objection of the United Kingdom representative on the grounds that it would constitute an input to Iraqi industry.

2. Refusal to allow a Turkish company to export 20,000 tons of Portland cement to Iraqi merchants on the grounds that it would constitute an input to Iraqi industry.

3. Refusal to allow Turkish exporters to export quantities of car paint, polish and spare parts to Iraqi merchants, because of the objection of the French representative on the grounds that it was intended for private cars.

4. Refusal to allow the export of quantities of detergent in powder form to Iraqi merchants, because of the objections of the other representatives, even though the detergent is an end-product and an essential humanitarian item.

5. Refusal to allow Jordanian companies to export sewing equipment and machinery, nylon yarns and soles for shoes to Iraqi merchants, because of the objection of the United States representative on the grounds that they constituted an input to Iraqi industry.

6. Refusal to allow the Indian firm Rajahstan to export quantities of watch parts to Iraqi merchants, because of the objection of the United States representative on the grounds that they were not essential humanitarian items.

Because of the positions of a few States that are tyrannical and overbearing, the Sanctions Committee has become a political instrument for the continuation of the deliberate infliction of injury on the people of Iraq. We appeal to you to intervene to halt these arbitrary actions committed against the people of Iraq in the Sanctions Committee, inasmuch as they are contrary to all humane values and considerations.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq
20 May 1993